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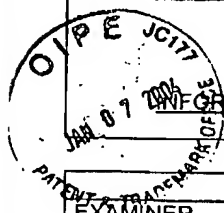
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FORM PTO-1449

## INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

ATTY. DOCKET NO.  
0666.1110004/TGD/RLP  
FIRST NAMED INVENTOR  
Abend *et al.*  
FILING DATE  
September 30, 2003Page 1 of 11  
APPLICATION NO.  
10/673,377  
ART UNIT  
3616

## U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB-CLASS	FILING DATE
JS	AA1	168,955	10/19/1875	J.B. Annin			
	AB1	2,191,961	02/27/1940	Howell			
	AC1	2,255,348	09/1941	Brown			
	AD1	2,311,922	02/23/1943	Allin			
	AE1	2,332,838	10/1943	Borgward			
	AF1	2,336,911	12/1943	Zimmermann			
	AG1	2,336,912	12/1943	Zimmermann			
	AH1	2,391,735	12/1945	Orshansky, Jr.			
	AI1	2,530,720	11/1950	Paulson			
	AJ1	2,745,506	05/1956	McCallum			
JS	AK1	2,763,164	09/1956	Neklutin			

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUB-CLASS	TRANSLATION
JS	AL1	249274	04/1948	Switzerland			Yes No
	AM1	1147142	10/1960	France			Yes No
	AN1	57-140277	08/1982	Japan			Yes No
	AO1	63-227476	09/1988	Japan			Yes No
JS	AP1	2-261952	10/1990	Japan			Yes No

## OTHER (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)

JS	AR	1	Brochure Regarding Differential Steering, pp. 4-15.
	AS	1	Excel Industries, Inc. "Hustler 4000 Series", 1995, pp. 1-8.
JS	AT	1	Michael Bargo, Jr., "Tanks and dozers turn on a dime with new all gear steering", Popular Science, July 1985, pp. 60-62.

EXAMINER

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## U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB-CLASS	FILING DATE
9/25	AA2	2,936,033	05/1960	Gates			
	AB2	3,059,416	10/1962	Campbell			
	AC2	3,371,734	03/1968	Zaunberger <i>et al.</i>			
	AD2	3,376,760	04/1968	Gordainer			
	AE2	3,395,671	08/1968	Zimmermann, Jr.			
	AF2	3,450,218	06/1969	Looker			
	AG2	3,492,891	02/1970	Livezey			
	AH2	3,530,741	09/1970	Charest			
	AI2	3,590,658	07/1971	Tuck			
	AJ2	3,596,535	08/1971	Polak			
	AK2	3,603,176	09/1971	Tippling <i>et al.</i>			
9/25	AL2	3,612,199	10/1971	Vissers			

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUB-CLASS	TRANSLATION
9/25	AM2	WO 92/12889	08/1992	PCT			Yes No
	AN2	42 24 887 A1	10/1993	Germany			Yes No
	AO2	6-264976	09/1994	Japan			Yes No
	AP2	8-142906	06/1996	Japan			Yes No
9/25	AR2	2 303 829 A	03/1997	United Kingdom			Yes No

## OTHER (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)

9/25	AS	2	R.M. Ogorkiewicz, "Tank Steering Mechanisms", <i>The Engineer</i> , March 3, 1967, pp. 337-340.				
	AT	2	Excel Industries, Inc., "U-T-R The Ultimate Turning Radius", 1992, pp. 1-6.				
9/25	AU	2	Electric Tractor Corporation, "An Idea Whose Time Has Come", 5 pages, date of publication unknown, published in Ontario, Canada.				

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EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB-CLASS	FILING DATE
JA	AA3 / 3,717,212	02/1973	Potter			
	AB3 / 3,796,275	03/1974	Bouyer			
	AC3 / 3,869,014	03/1975	Federspiel <i>et al.</i>			
	AD3 / 3,901,339	08/1975	Williamson			
	AE3 / 3,903,977	09/1975	Gillette <i>et al.</i>			
	AF3 / 3,907,051	09/1975	Weant <i>et al.</i>			
	AG3 / 3,966,005	06/1976	Binger			
	AH3 / 3,978,937	09/1976	Chichester <i>et al.</i>			
	AI3 / 4,133,404	01/1979	Griffin			
	AJ3 / 4,174,762	11/1979	Hopkins <i>et al.</i>			
	AK3 / 4,245,524	01/1981	Dammon			
JA	AL3 / 4,281,737	08/1981	Molzahn			

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUB-CLASS	TRANSLATION
JA	AM3 / 9-202255	08/1997	Japan			Yes No
	AN3 / 9-202258	08/1997	Japan			Yes No
	AO3 / 9-202259	08/1997	Japan			Yes No
	AP3 / 9-216522	08/1997	Japan			Yes No
JA	AQ3 / 0 806 337 A1	12/1997	Europe			Yes No

## OTHER (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)

JA	AR / 3	Electric Tractor Corporation, Model #9620, "The Ultimate Lawn and Garden Tractor", 6 pages, date of publication unknown.				
	AS / 3	Farm Show Magazine, "Battery Powered Riding mower", 1 page, date of publication, March-April 1996.				
JA	AT / 3	Deere & Company, "240, 245, 260, 265, 285 and 320 Lawn and Garden Tractors Technical Manual", front cover and pages 10-2 to 10-4 and 10-6, date of publication, 1996.				

EXAMINER *Jaeger*

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<i>gls</i>	AA4	4,320,810	03/1982	Hillmann <i>et al.</i>			
	AB4	4,399,882	08/1983	O'Neill <i>et al.</i>			
	AC4	4,471,669	09/1984	Seaberg			
	AD4	4,572,310	02/1986	Peter			
	AE4	4,577,711	03/1986	Butler			
	AF4	4,620,575	11/1986	Cuba <i>et al.</i>			
	AG4	4,718,508	01/1988	Tervola			
	AH4	4,729,257	03/1988	Nelson			
	AI4	4,732,053	03/1988	Gleasant <i>et al.</i>			
	AJ4	4,738,328	04/1988	Hayden			
	AK4	4,776,235	10/1988	Gleasant <i>et al.</i>			
	AL4	4,776,236	10/1988	Gleasant <i>et al.</i>			
<i>gls</i>	AM4	4,782,650	11/1988	Walker			

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUB-CLASS	TRANSLATION
<i>gls</i>	AN4	WO 98/32645	07/1998	PCT			Yes No
<i>gls</i>	AO4	WO 99/40499	08/1999	PCT			Yes No
<i>gls</i>	AP4	WO 00/01569	01/2000	PCT			Yes No

## OTHER (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)

<i>gls</i>	AR	4	Woods Equipment Company, "Woods Mow'n Machine, Zero turning radius riding mower", 12 pages, 1997.
<i>↓</i>	AS	4	ExMark "Professional turf care equipment", 20 pages, 1997.
<i>gls</i>	AT	4	Dixon Industries, Inc., "Dixon ZTR Riding Mowers", pp. 1-4, 1997.

EXAMINER

*gls*

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## U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB-CLASS	FILING DATE
JA	AA5 / 4,790,399	12/1988	Middlesworth			
	AB5 / 4,809,796	03/1989	Yamaoka <i>et al.</i>			
	AC5 / 4,813,506	03/1989	Smith			
	AD5 / 4,870,820	10/1989	Nemoto			
	AE5 / 4,875,536	10/1989	Saur <i>et al.</i>			
	AF5 / 4,882,947	11/1989	Barnard			
	AG5 / 4,895,052	01/1990	Gleasant <i>et al.</i>			
	AH5 / 4,914,907	04/1990	Okada			
	AI5 / 4,917,200	04/1990	Lucius			
	AJ5 / 4,932,209	06/1990	Okada <i>et al.</i>			
JA	AK5 / 4,949,823	08/1990	Coutant <i>et al.</i>			

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUB-CLASS	TRANSLATION
	AL5					Yes No
	AM5					Yes No
	AN5					Yes No
	AO5					Yes No
	AP5					Yes No

## OTHER (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)

JA	AR / 5	Shlvers, Mfg., "Zero turn radius mower, The Commercial Clipper", pp. 1-4, 1997.
↓	AS / 5	Ferris Industries, Inc., "The ProCut Z Zero Turn Rider", pp. 1-2, 1997.
JA	AT / 5	Zipper, TS Mower, "The Zipper-TS Mowers", pp. 1-2, 1997.

EXAMINER

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EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB-CLASS	FILING DATE
<i>gls</i>	AA6	5,004,060	04/1991	Barbagli <i>et al.</i>			
	AB6	5,015,221	05/1991	Smith			
	AC6	5,052,511	10/1991	Hunt			
	AD6	5,094,326	03/1992	Schemelin <i>et al.</i>			
	AE6	5,131,483	07/1992	Parkes			
	AF6	RE34,057	09/1992	Middlesworth			
	AG6	5,195,600	03/1993	Dorgan			
	AH6	5,201,240	04/1993	Hayes <i>et al.</i>			
	AI6	5,247,784	09/1993	Kitamura <i>et al.</i>			
	AJ6	5,279,376	01/1994	Yang <i>et al.</i>			
	AK6	5,285,866	02/1994	Ackroyd			
	AL6	5,307,612	05/1994	Tomiyama <i>et al.</i>			
	AM6	5,314,387	05/1994	Hauser <i>et al.</i>			
<i>gls</i>	AN6	5,335,739	08/1994	Pieterse <i>et al.</i>			

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUB-CLASS	TRANSLATION
	AO6						Yes No
	AP6						Yes No
	AQ6						Yes No

## OTHER (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)

<i>gls</i>	AR	6	Westwood, "The Westwood Clipper, Owner's Instruction Manual", pp. 1-17, 19, date of publication unknown.				
	AS	6					
	AT	6					

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EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB-CLASS	FILING DATE
88	AA7	5,339,631	08/1994	Ohashi			
	AB7	5,367,861	11/1994	Murakawa <i>et al.</i>			
	AC7	5,383,528	01/1995	Nicol			
	AD7	5,387,161	02/1995	Shibahata			
	AE7	5,505,279	04/1996	Louis <i>et al.</i>			
	AF7	5,507,138	04/1996	Wright <i>et al.</i>			
	AG7	5,517,809	05/1996	Rich			
	AH7	5,535,840	07/1996	Ishino <i>et al.</i>			
	AI7	5,553,453	09/1996	Coutant <i>et al.</i>			
	AJ7	5,560,447	10/1996	Ishii <i>et al.</i>			
	AK7	5,564,518	10/1996	Ishii <i>et al.</i>			
98	AL7	5,644,903	07/1997	Davis, Jr.			

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUB-CLASS	TRANSLATION
	AM7						Yes No
	AN7						Yes No
	AO7						Yes No

## OTHER (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)

AR	Z	
AS	Z	
AT	Z	

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EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB-CLASS	FILING DATE
	AA8	5,649,606	07/1997	Bebernes <i>et al.</i>			
	AB8	5,667,032	09/1997	Kamlukin			
	AC8	5,706,907	01/1998	Unruh			
	AD8	5,722,501	03/1998	Finch <i>et al.</i>			
	AE8	5,775,437	07/1998	Ichikawa <i>et al.</i>			
	AF8	5,782,142	07/1998	Abend <i>et al.</i>			
	AG8	<del>5,824,376</del> 5,842,378	12/1998 7/23/04	Zellmer			
	AH8	5,850,886	12/1998	Kuono <i>et al.</i>			
	AI8	5,894,907	04/1999	Peter			
	AJ8	5,910,060	06/1999	Blume			
	AK8	5,913,802	06/1999	Mullet <i>et al.</i>			
	AL8	5,946,894	09/1999	Eavenson <i>et al.</i>			

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUB-CLASS	TRANSLATION
	AM8						Yes No
	AN8						Yes No
	AO8						Yes No

## OTHER (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)

	AR	8	
	AS	8	
	AT	8	

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*George Z. Z...*

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	AA9	5,947,219	09/1999	Peter <i>et al.</i>			
	AB9	5,975,224	11/1999	Satzler			
	AC9	5,997,425	12/1999	Coutant <i>et al.</i>			
	AD9	6,026,634	02/2000	Peter <i>et al.</i>			
	AE9	6,035,959	03/2000	Schaedler			
	AF9	6,038,840	03/2000	Ishimori <i>et al.</i>			
	AG9	6,098,386	08/2000	Shimizu <i>et al.</i>			
	AH9	6,098,737	8/2000	Aoki			
	AI9	6,098,740	08/2000	Abend <i>et al.</i>			
	AJ9	6,126,564	10/2000	Irikura <i>et al.</i>			
	AK9	6,129,164	10/2000	Teal <i>et al.</i>			
	AL9	6,141,947	11/2000	Borling			
	AM9	6,152,248	11/28/2000	Hidaka <i>et al.</i>			

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUB-CLASS	TRANSLATION
	AN9						Yes No
	AO9						Yes No
	AP9						Yes No

## OTHER (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)

AR	9	
AS	9	
AT	9	

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*Joel Z 9*

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AA10	6,189,641	02/2001	Azuma			
AB10	6,196,342 B1	03/06/2001	Teal <i>et al.</i>			
AC10	6,196,348	03/2001	Yano <i>et al.</i>			
AD10	6,257,357 B1	07/10/2001	Teal <i>et al.</i>			
AE10	6,260,641	07/2001	Hidaka			
AF10	2001/0011610	08/2001	Teal <i>et al.</i>			
AG10	6,283,236	09/2001	Teal <i>et al.</i>			
AH10	6,312,354	11/6/2001	Irikura			
AI10	6,354,388	03/2002	Teal <i>et al.</i>			
AJ10	6,397,966	6/4/2002	Irikura			
AK10	6,524,205	2/25/2003	Irikura			
AL10	6,336,513	1/8/2002	Hasegawa			
AM10	6,447,419	9/10/2002	Irikura			

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

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AN10						Yes No
AO10						Yes No
AP10						Yes No

## OTHER (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)

AR	10	
AS	10	
AT	10	

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Joseph Z. Z...

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AA11		6,540,633	4/1/2003	Hasegawa			
AB11		6,544,085	4/29/2003	Hasegawa			
AC11		6,547,685	4/15/03	Kawada			
AD11							
AE11							
AF11							
AG11							
AH11							
AI11							

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AL11							Yes No
AM11							Yes No
AN11							Yes No
AO11							Yes No
AP11							Yes No

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